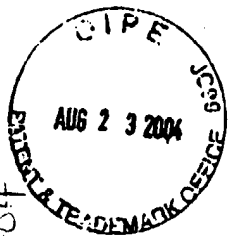


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MS AF  
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1647

PATENT  
2520-0120P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tomokazu NAGANO et al. Conf.: 1286  
Appl. No.: 09/762,188 Group: 1647  
Filed: February 5, 2001 Examiner: Bridget BUNNER  
For: A METHOD OF TREATING ISCHEMIC DISEASE  
BY INTRAMUSCULAR ADMINISTRATION OF  
HEPATOCYTE GROWTH FACTOR

REPLY AFTER FINAL UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

MS AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 23, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated February 24, 2004, the due date for Reply having been extended three (3) months to August 24, 2004 by petition herein, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.